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FEB 95

[REDACTED] DURING THE LATE AFTERNOON OF 24 FEBRUARY, [REDACTED] WAS COORDINATING INTELLIGENCE RELATED TO THE BAMACA CASE WITH THE POLITICAL SECTION [REDACTED] WHILE THE [REDACTED], HE OFFERED TO ALLOW [REDACTED] TO REVIEW THE DRAFT OF AN INTERNAL MEMORANDUM RELATED TO THE CASE WHICH HE WAS THEN TOUCHING UP. [REDACTED] READ THE MEMO ON THE [REDACTED] OFFICER'S WANG TERMINAL.

THE INTERNAL MEMORANDUM QUOTED AN UNIDENTIFIED
OFFICIAL, WHO INTERVIEWED A GUATEMALAN MILITARY
OFFICER (COMMENT:
THE OFFICER, WHOSE NAME WAS ALSO DELETED FROM THE MEMO BUT
WHO THE OFFICER SAID HE COULD IDENTIFY, IS
THE OFFICER REPORTEDLY WAS IN
WHEN EFRAIN ((BAMACA)) VELASQUEZ WAS BEING
HELD THERE, AND MAY HAVE SEEN BAMACA AS LATE AS DECEMBER
1992. THE OFFICER TOLD THAT
BAMACA WAS MOVED AROUND A LOT FROM MILITARY POST TO
MILITARY POST TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SECURITY FOR THE
OPERATION. BAMACA REPORTEDLY WAS IMMOBILIZED WITH A CAST
ON HIS LEG TO PREVENT HIM FROM ESCAPING.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE

JUNE 96

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(b)(1)
(b)(3)
S

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] A DEFENSE ATTACHE'S OFFICE COMMENT WAS ATTACHED TO THE MEMO. IT SAID THAT THE DAO, WHICH ALSO KNOWS THE IDENTITY OF THE ARMY OFFICER, COULD VERIFY THAT THE OFFICER WAS POSTED IN [REDACTED] AT THE TIME HE CLAIMS. IN ADDITION, THE DAO NOTED IT REPORTED SEPARATE INFORMATION SUGGESTING THAT BAMACA HAD BEEN IMMOBILIZED WITH A CAST TO PREVENT HIM FROM ATTEMPTING AN ESCAPE. THESE DETAILS SUPPORT THE BONA FIDES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE INFORMATION WAS STARTLING, AND VERY IMPORTANT. [REDACTED] ASKED WHY IT WAS NOT BEING DISSEMINATED IN CABLE CHANNELS, NOTING THAT IF [REDACTED] SAT ON SIMILAR INFORMATION, IT WOULD BE ROUNDLY CRITICIZED. [REDACTED] OFFICER SHRUGGED HIS SHOULDERS AND STATED THAT NOBODY HAD TOLD HIM TO PUT THE INFORMATION IN A TELEGRAM. DURING THE MORNING OF 27 FEBRUARY, [REDACTED] GIVEN A FORMAL DROP COPY OF THE MEMORANDUM. [REDACTED] TASKED [REDACTED] WITH DRAFTING UP A GIST TO HQS. [REDACTED] HAD A 1000 HRS MEETING WITH COAST GUARD OFFICIALS VISITING FROM PANAMA CITY, BUT WAS TO DRAFT THE CABLE IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER.

(b)(1)
(b)(3)

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1.5(c)

[REDACTED] WHILE [REDACTED] WAS AWAY AT THE MEETING, THE [REDACTED] OFFICER RETURNED [REDACTED] AND ASKED [REDACTED] TO RETRIEVE THE MEMO. HE SAID HE HAD MADE A MISTAKE AND WAS NOT AUTHORIZED TO PASS THE MEMO [REDACTED] AND WAS NOT EVEN SURE [REDACTED] WAS TO KNOW ABOUT IT. HE SAID THE EMBASSY WAS TO HAVE A MEETING ON THE INFORMATION LATER IN THE DAY (27 FEBRUARY), BUT THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER [REDACTED] WOULD BE INVITED. [REDACTED] SURRENDERED THE MEMO WITHOUT MAKING A PHOTOCOPY. ALL INFORMATION ABOVE IS FROM [REDACTED] MEMORY.

[REDACTED] DISTURBED THAT THE INFORMATION IS POSSIBLY BEING WITHHELD FROM [REDACTED] AND THE WASHINGTON COMMUNITY AT LARGE. IF NOT FOR GOOD PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH [REDACTED] OFFICER, [REDACTED] MAY HAVE NEVER KNOWN ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF THE INFORMATION. WE ARE TROUBLED THAT WE ARE COORDINATING ALL INTELLIGENCE IN GOOD FAITH, BUT THAT THE EMBASSY IS NOT RETURNING THIS PROFESSIONAL FAVOR AND OBLIGATION. WE WILL ADVISE WHETHER [REDACTED] INVITED TO THE MEETING TO DISCUSS THE INFORMATION FROM THE PRISONER, AND WILL ELICIT COMMENTS [REDACTED] ON THE FINAL DISPOSITION OF THE MEMO. REQUEST HQS VIEWS.

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